



Gung Hee Fat Choy!

January-February 1977
Vol. V, No. 4



Sampan

A publication of the Chinese-American Civic Association

Enter the Year of the Serpent! 4675

February 18 marks the Lunar New Year for the Chinese community, the ushering in of the Year of the Serpent, the celebration of the year 4675. The dragon, who reigned last year, now yields to the serpent. Chinese around the world mark the New Year as the most

significant annual festival, a time of celebration and joy, family gathering, of good will and good fortune, of love and hope.

The Serpent, symbol of good fortune, is for business which look forward to a year of growth and good luck.

The Serpent is fifth in the

12-animal cycle which was said to have begun under the reign of the Yellow Emperor. The prime minister of the Yellow Emperor is credited with the "grouping of the years" into chronological cycles of 60 years, beginning in 2698 B.C. (Hence, 1977 is the year 4675 after the Yellow

Emperor.

Next year will be the year of the horse.

At this time of the year, more than any, Chinatown is a community unto itself; the Chinese clinging tenaciously to their cultural identity and continuing age-old traditional customs.

It is a time of worship in the traditional Chinese homes--the worshipping of Heaven and Earth, the worshipping of the Household Gods, and the worshipping of the Ancestors.

On New Year's Eve, an altar table is decked with bright platters of oranges, tangerines, pomelos and cooked food; and brightly-decorated red candles and incense is burned. Fire crackers are burned and the proper respect and worship is paid by kneeling and bowing at the altar. Paper money is burned to honor gods. Then the family sits down to a reunion feast.

New Years is a time, not only for family gathering, but also for visiting. Gifts of oranges and tangerines are offered and guests are treated to dried melon seeds and the popular, candied fruits. Money, wrapped in red paper, is passed out for good luck.

On New Year's Day, only "good words" are spoken, and old grievances are forgotten. Children are warned not to use words of ill omen, such as "death," "demon," "lose," or "coffin."

Everything is done to insure a good and prosperous year. Peter Kin-lap Chan, Manager of Little City Hall, offers these insights into some of the rituals of the New Year:

Desire to begin afresh

To the Chinese, New Year is a time to cast off the old and begin anew. Preparations begin

Continued on Page 3

concerned about our community
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Quincy Community School program safe... 'til July

By Justina Chu

Although there are conflicting views regarding the real scope of the City's financial crisis, there can be little doubt that Boston is facing a tight fiscal situation.

Mayor Kevin White offered no denial to reporter Gary McMillan's Dec. 8 *Boston Globe* article which stated: "While no final decisions have been made, the City is expected to abolish the Office of Drug Abuse, Com-

munity Schools, and at least one program within the Youth Activities Commission." White's silence on the matter aroused considerable concern among Community School Councils.

Throughout the City community councils involved in the Community School Program were alarmed. Letters from different Community Schools and from the Community School Boards, in addition to hundreds and thousands of letters, Christmas cards, as well as

telephone calls from community members promptly swamped the Mayor's Office.

In Chinatown the Quincy Community School Council, which is presently operating a number of after-school and summer programs that serve about 1,500 community participants in a brand new \$12 million complex, had its share of enthusiastic support from the community.

The Mayor's response came on Dec. 17. He would keep

the Community School Program running for the rest of this fiscal year "due to pressure," however, if no new revenue is found soon, the program "Definitely would go."

Community members who have participated in the summer and after-school programs at the Quincy Community School have expressed much appreciation for the prompt action and display of concern--and the effect of their efforts--suggest that their voices are

heard. The Community School Program, which includes 18 such Community Schools in Boston is now being reviewed by the Mayor. Whether or not it can be given a satisfactory budget for the next fiscal year ('77 to '78) will depend largely on the availability of new revenues to ease the City's fiscal crisis.

Meanwhile, continued moral support to the Community School Program will be needed.

'Center for the community' wide range of offerings

The Quincy Community School is a center for the entire community—a place to learn to have fun, to grow, by sharing ideas, skills and experiences. Recently, funding for the Quincy Community School was threatened because of City budget deficits. Strong community support to the concept of the Community Boston School program, letters of protest and support inundated the Mayor's office and Kevin H. White agreed to continue the school's funding until the end of this fiscal year.

Programs—a wide range of diversified activities for both young and old—are available at the Quincy Community School, now that doors are open. The new school facility at 885 Washington Street (at the corner of Oak and Washington Streets) allows community members to use the building after school hours. (The Quincy Elementary School occupies the building during the morning and afternoon).

Registration for the late winter-spring session was held between January 28 and February 4, but there may be spaces open and persons still

interested might call the Quincy Community School. Their phone number is 426-6660. The Quincy Community School offices operate Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and programs are scheduled between 3 and 9:30 p.m.

Membership fees are 25 cents for children under and including 12, 50 cents for teens (ages 13-17) and \$1 for adults. Senior Citizens are eligible for a 50 percent discount on all courses and free membership.

The courses offered this spring are: English as a second language for adults Learning to learn, Chinese American History Review, Elementary Cantonese, Tutoring for adults, Language and fun, Creative writing for children.

The calligraphy marking banks, shops, and restaurants in reds, golds, and greens, and the store front windows packed with ornaments and trinkets seem to echo the activity of the streets. The streets are short and narrow, and sometimes winding. In some, the produce trucks ride the sidewalks in order to pass another unloading. The air is seasoned with fried wonton and ginger.

Letter of thanks

Open letter to the Chinese community and other supporters:

We wish to thank all of you who have so favorably responded with support letters to the Mayor on behalf of saving the Quincy Community School Program.

The program seems safe until the end of this fiscal year (June 30). We hope that we can look forward to your continued support should the Boston Community School Program once again find its funding jeopardized. The Mayor is now reviewing the program and will make a decision in the coming months. We will keep you posted.

Thank you again, and hope to see you at the school.

Richard Chin, administrative coordinator, on behalf of Quincy Community School Council and its staff



Chinatown team proves victorious

By BOBBY GOON

The Junior Competition Team of the Academy of Chinese Martial Arts, consisting of eleven boys and girls, attended their first Martial Arts tournament and returned home with twelve impressive victories.

Instructed by Sifu Kwong Tit Fu, headmaster of the Academy, and assisted by Bob Goon, team coach, these youngsters, with little or no prior experience in competition, practically swept the major awards at the 1976 Annual Northeast Junior Karate Championships held in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in late

November. They competed with over three hundred junior martial artists (18 and under) from the New England-New York Region.

Steven and Bruce Kwong won first and second places in the Weapons Demonstrations Competition. The Kata, or Formal Exercise Competition awards were won by Steven Kwong (1st), Stephen Wing (3rd), Bobby Hom (1st), Kimbolt Chin (3rd), and Bruce Kwong (2nd) in their respective age divisions. Free-style Sparring (Kumite) winners were Bobby Hom (1st) and Kimbolt Chin

(3rd). Also representing the Chinatown team were Terrel Calloway, Vinny Ambrosini, and Nathan Green.

In the Girls' Divisions, Pauline Lee won 2nds place in the Form Competition, while Ginny Kwong and Alice Moy both captured 2nd places in Free-style Sparring within their separate age groups. Betty Kwong was the other female representative of the Academy.

The Junior Competition Team has been in existence for only a short time, less than half a year.

Sampan

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The SAMPAN is a monthly, non-profit publication of the Chinese-American Civic Association. Its staff is entirely voluntary. Its policy is to provide relevant information about the events which affect Boston Chinatown and its residents. The objective of the SAMPAN and its staff is to provide a vehicle for communication about local news events and issues of importance to the Chinese community in New England. It is the only printed voice for the Chinese community.

ADVERTISING is accepted to cover costs of publishing and other related expenses. Deadline for advertising is the last day of the preceding month before publication. Printed photo-offset. Repro proofs, art work and photographs are acceptable. Mats, engravings and electros, etc. are not accepted. Rates: \$3 per column inch, quarter page, \$50; half-page, \$85; full page, \$150. SPONSOR OF THE MONTH--\$100.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to: SAMPAN, Advertising Manager, c/o CACA Multi-Service Center, 85A Tyler Street, Boston, MA, 02111, or call 426-8673.

Serpent dominates '77 in cycle of 12 animals



RAM- (1907, 1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979) You are a sensitive, refined, aesthetic type with considerable talent in all the arts. Indeed success or failure will depend upon whether you can shepherd your ability and energy into a single field.

MONKEY- (1908, 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980) In today's parlance, you are a swinger. And because of your flair for decision making and surefooted feel for finance, you are certain to climb to the top.

ROOSTER- (1909, 1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969) You either score heavily or lay a large egg. Although outspoken and not shy in groups, you are basically a loner who doesn't trust most people. Yet you are capable of attracting close and loyal friends.

DOG- (1910, 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982) You are loyal, and honest with a deep sense of duty and justice. Can always be turned to guard the secrets of others.

BOAR- (1911, 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983) The quiet inner strength of your character is outwardly and breeding. Your drive and ambition will lead you to success.

RAT- (1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984) You have been blessed with great personal charm, a taste for the better things in life and considerate self-control which remains your quick temper.

OX- (1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985) You have a calm nature. Friends turn to you because you are the rarest of creatures—a good listener. Love bewilders you. Many people wrongly consider you cold.

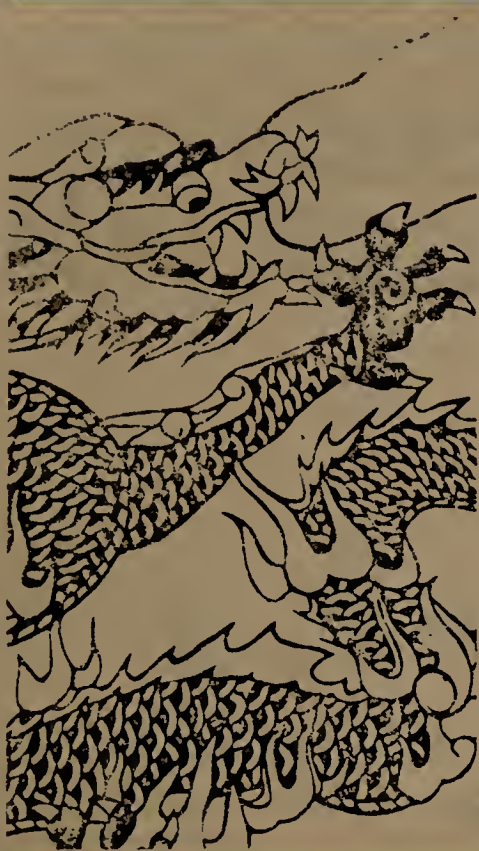
TIGER- (1902, 1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986) You are a person of great extremes. A sympathetic and considerate friend. A powerful and dangerous enemy. In your career you are both a deep thinker and a careful planner.

HARE- (1903, 1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987) You are blessed with extraordinary good fortune and will inevitably provide financial success. This luck of yours not only extends to your business interests but also to games of chance.

DRAGON- (1904, 1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964) Your reputation as a fire eater is based on your outward show of stubbornness, bluster and short temper. But underneath you are really gentle, sensitive, and soft hearted.

SERPENT- (1905, 1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989) You Snake people have more than your share of the world's gifts, including wisdom. You are likely to be handsome, well formed men, and graceful, beautiful women.

HORSE- (1906, 1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990) Your cheerful disposition and flattering ways make you a popular favorite. Great mental agility will keep you in the upper income.



The formal celebration of Chinese New Year began in the Tang Dynasty, AD 618-907. By then the custom of reckoning time by the phases of the moon was centuries old. The habit stuck, and over the centuries, was enlarged and elaborated on as succeeding generations found new reasons for celebration. These habits are hard to forget; to this day, tradition-minded Chinese tend to spurn the West's Gregorian calendar, except for the conveniences of international commerce.

Twelve animals comprise the symbolic cycle of the Chinese lunar calendar—rat, ox, tiger, hare, dragon, serpent, horse, ram, monkey, rooster, dog, and boar. Each is honored once in every 12 year cycle. The first cycle began in 2637 BC.

Following this Year of the Serpent, the balance of the current cycle reads as follows:

Year of the Serpent (4675)	February 18, 1977
Year of the Horse (4676)	February 7, 1978
Year of the Ram (4677)	January 28, 1979
Year of the Monkey (4678)	February 16, 1980
Year of the Rooster (4679)	February 5, 1981
Year of the Dog (4680)	January 25, 1982
Year of the Boar (4681)	February 13, 1983
Year of the Rat (4682)	February 2, 1984.

Continued from page 1

sense of reunion, goodwill & generosity prevails

two weeks before the end of the old year. Families clean their houses. Every piece of furniture is scrubbed and every corner of the house is dusted so that no ill-luck or evil omen of the old year will remain.

This desire to rid past defects and failings applies to personal grooming as well. On the last day of the year everyone bathes, washes and shaves.

After this, new clothing is worn. Another aspect of "cleaning up" is the desire to settle all financial debts. An obligation of the old year should not be carried into the new one.

Time for reunion

New Year also signifies the reunion of family and relatives. At midnight of New Year's eve, all members of a family dine together for a *t'uan nein fan* or togetherness meal. They present New Year's wishes to one another, offer sacrifice, and together they sit up all night to welcome in the new year.

Renewal of good will

Red is the lucky color in China, because it is said to exorcise evils. It is the predominant color in all New Year decorations. Almost every house is adorned with red posters or banners bearing the characters for luck and prosperity, or phrases wishing wealth, longevity, and the gift of sons.

Some examples: "May the five blessings (namely, longevity, riches, health, love of virtue, and a natural death) visit this door." and "May heaven send down happiness."

These hangings symbolize the wish of every person to start off the new year on a note of good will and harmony. During the New Year, the Chinese are careful in their conversations, not to quarrel with one another, and ill feelings are usually reconciled at this time. Children

are warned not to break anything or hurt themselves. New Year visits of good will are made to relatives and friends.

Hope for progress

The main theme for the New Year is exorcising of evils and past defects so that hope for progress and prosperity can be possible for the ensuing year. Chinese firecrackers are reputed to scare off evil spirits while ushering in spirits of good fortune and prosperity with their noisy popping and banging.

On New Year's day, mothers will offer their children small cakes and say: "Pu pu kao sheng." These small sweet cakes are called "nien kao" (year high) which form a homonym for "high year." By eating these cakes the person will grow higher in physical, social, financial, intellectual, and moral status.

Fish is also an important delicacy in new year's meals. The Chinese character "fish" has the same sound as the character "surplus." It is a symbolic representation that the family will always have more to come.

Practice of generosity

Food gifts have a symbolism as they indicate that the donor has an abundance of the good things in life which he is anxious to share and pass on to others. On New Year's eve and again on New Year's day, happy children will receive gifts of money wrapped in red packets (*hung-pao* or *li-tze*) from parents, married relatives and family friends.

The "hung pao" usually carry the double "hsi" (for marital bliss), the characters "ta-chi" (great luck) or "ta-li" (great profit). The red packet money is believed to be lucky as they indicate the older generation's hope for the good health and success of their offerings.

Call to vigor

Lion dances and dragon dances originated as rituals of exorcism to clear the air of evils. (A distinction should be made between dragon dances—which consists of many men supporting a dragon 30 or more feet long—and, the lion dance—which is performed by smaller, often amateur groups). The performers, usually at the prime of their lives, release vigor without reserve. And the crowd will be contaminated with this

vigorous spirit.

Watch, in a half-comic, half-religious pantomime, accompanied by rhythmic drum-beat and gonging, the lion or dragon twisting its way through the streets, sometimes chasing or playing with a pearl or colored ball. Each shop hangs out an offering, usually consisting of oranges and "hung-pao" for the lion. The performers will perform all kinds of tricks to capture these offerings. After that "kung fu" or martial art demonstration will

be performed to the delight of the crowd.

The first day of the year is regarded by the Chinese as the birthday of the entire population, for the practice among the Hebrews of dating the age from the beginning of the year, prevails also in China—so that a child born only a week before New Year, is considered as entering his second year on New Year's day.



Photo by Kerry Leppo

The achievements and the problems of the Asian cultures which have been transplanted into an American environment are brought to light on Asian Focus.

Gloria Chun is host/producer

Asian Focus
Sunday mornings at 9:00



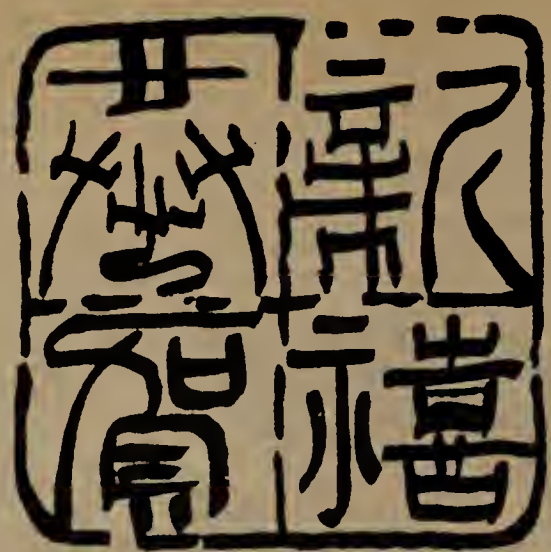
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Justina Chu joins 'Say Brother' — 1st Asian reporter

Eileen Yang assists WGBH research staff on show

"Say Brother" is a familiar cliché of greeting between Black brothers and sisters. "Say Brother" is also the name of a WGBH (channel 2's) weekly televised show broadcast each Friday at 7:30 p.m. now in its seventh season. Of interest to the Chinese community, however, is the new, expanded format of "Say Brother"—a program attractive to the third world minorities in Boston.

An important new addition to "Say Brother" is its Chinese on-air reporter Justina Chu, who has been on air since late December covering news and items of interest to the Chinese community. Part of Justina's news reports are read in Chinese.

Behind the scenes is another Asian-Eileen Yang who is a researcher writer for "Say Brother." She is a key link between producer/hostess Barbara Barrow and the Chinese Community. All research is done for Barbara, on topics regarding Chinatown, by Eileen.

"Say Brother's" multicultural format includes topics of interest to the Chinese, Spanish-speaking, and Black communities. In addition to the news segment, the show features

an arts review, 10-minute in depth interview of a special guest, a "Community Calendar" and a series of researched short features called "Third World Connection" which traces the cultural and anthropological ties between all peoples-based upon the Black heritage.

The addition of a Chinese news reporter and a Spanish-speaking reporter provides the show with a much broader audience and range of topics. And for the first time on TV in Boston, there is an opportunity to have community news about Chinatown covered on TV.

"I see it as a beginning for getting the Chinese Community's involvement in the media, on TV. It's a small beginning-but a beginning," said Justina.

As the Newest on-air addition to "Say Brother," Justina is getting her first taste of TV news reporting and her job is, magnified because— as the first Asian TV reporter to cover specifically Chinatown and the Chinese community in Boston. She is breaking new ground, establishing the importance of covering this forgotten, often

invisible, ethnic minority.

Justina is, in addition to reporting for "Say Brother," an active community member. She is a guidance counselor in the CETA-funded Vocational English Education Program in

January 31 and February 4 from 7:30 to 8 p.m.

Born in Macao, educated in Hong Kong, Justina first came to Boston in 1966 and entered Northeastern University majoring in journalism and later

"I've been very aware of the great differences between these cultures, lifestyles and especially the differences in the methods of upbringing in families," she said.

The impact of Eileen Yang's work in "Say Brother" is less obvious to the viewer since her work is primarily research and background "digging" for the show's hostess/producer. Her job is to cover and study the various agencies and functions of those agencies in the Chinese community to date, she was the key link researcher for the indepth interview of May Ling Tong, executive director of CACA.

Recently, "Say Brother's" indepth interview featured William Leong and Joe Chow of the Chinese Economic Development Council. Discussion centered around the CEDC's goals, activities, and the needs addressed by the Council. (Show as aired Feb. 4 and repeated Feb. 6).

"Other guests from the Chinese community will be featured on 'Say Brother' to discuss current topics," noted Eileen. Originally from Maryland, Eileen graduated from Tufts University with a degree in Asian Studies.

"Say Brother" is shown Friday nights at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 2. The program is repeated Sunday night at 6:00 p.m.



Justina Chu

Chinatown, a program designed to teach English to immigrants with language problems which affect employment. The VEEP program also assists in the difficult stage of adjusting to a new American culture.

Recently, Justina researched Chinese folk tales as they affect Chinese values and morality. She and Lucinda Kang taped a series of five broadcasts for WGBH radio's "Spider Web" program. The programs were run between

switching to English. She and her family returned to Hong Kong in 1971. Justina returned to the U.S. in 1975. In addition to her work with VEEP, she was the chairperson for the city's Festival Bostonian Chinese month and was on the planning committee of last summer's August Moon program in Chinatown.

Having had exposure to both the East and West, Justina is well prepared to compare the two.

Mass Rehab opens Tai Tung office providing job guidance

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Tufts-Bay Cove Area Office was opened recently at 256-258 Harrison Avenue, in the Tai Tung Village. This area office will serve clients from the South End, Chinatown, North Dorchester, South Boston, and some parts of Roxbury.

The Mass. Rehab. Commission helps clients who have physical, mental, or emotional disabilities which interfere with their ability to enter or return to employment or to keep the jobs they already have. There must also be a reasonable expectation that the client will be able to engage in a

suitable occupation or be restored to an optimal level of functioning after rehabilitation services have been provided.

The Tufts-Bay Cove Area is one of five catchment areas in the Boston Region, which in turn is one of six Regions in the state divided along the lines of the Mass. State Department of Mental Health.

This office will basically provide services in counseling, guidance, job placement and follow-up. In addition, there may be other provisions such as physical restoration, vocational training, training materials, initial supplies for a small business or other goods and

services which may be necessary to help a client to engage in gainful employment. Clients may be asked to contribute for some of these services after an assessment of their financial needs.

The director for the Tufts-Bay Cove Area Office is Harold Paulsen, and he is assisted by two supervisors and eight counselors. Susanne Chan is the bilingual vocational rehabilitation counselor there who will help Chinese-speaking clients.

For referral, please contact Bart Nichols, the Rehabilitation supervisor, or Susanne Chan.



Eileen Yang

Snow Hints!

The following are suggestions from the Public Works Department and other City Agencies to facilitate them in performing their tasks when the snow and ice storms come.

1. Put snow tires on car or chains in the trunk.
2. Check your battery and anti-freeze in radiator.
3. Keep a shovel and box of sand in trunk of car.
4. Park your car in your garage or driveway. If you have neither and must park on the street, be sure to park on the even numbered side when a Snow Emergency is declared by the Traffic and Parking Commissioner, unless prohibited by "No-Parking" signs.
5. When shovelling out your car, please toss the snow *ahead of or to the rear* of the car. Shovelling snow into the roadway will spoil the plowing job-making the road bumpy and rutted.
6. Have a shovel and salt or sand on hand to make your sidewalk safe for pedestrians after snowfall.

Assistance will be rendered through the following city agencies: Assistance will be rendered through the following city agencies:

The Public Works Department has 82 salt spreaders and 380 heavy duty trucks (120

city and 260 contractors) available for plowinEach plow is assigned a special route. If an emergency arises such as need for an ambulance, etc., a truck will be rerouted or special equipment sent to provide access to your home, otherside, the plows will be kept on route and your street will be plowed shortly after the storm ends.

If there are any problems on your street or if an emergency develops during or after a snow storm-call 725-3050 for assistance. Any calls for assistance that are not a function of Public Works Department will be referred to the proper City Agency, excepting calls for assistance from the Police Department or Fire Department, who should be called directly.

If improperly parked or broken down vehicles prevent the snow plow from entering or plowing your street, call the same number 725-3050 and the Public Works Department and the Police Department will cooperate in removing any vehicle impeding plowing.

Your cooperation would be sincerely appreciated and we feel sure that if the above suggestions are followed we will all go through the coming winter with a minimum of inconvenience. Remember-for snow storm assistance call 725-3050.

ROG summer training program

The 1977 Summer Language Training Program in the Republic of China for Overseas Chinese Youths is now open for application. Overseas Chinese youths born in or residents of the United States, who are 20 to 23 years of age and who have not previously participated in such a program, are eligible to apply. Parental permission is requested.

Enrollment will be limited to 330. Priority will be given to older applicants within the age group range mentioned above. In the selection process consideration will be given to a

fair geographic distribution of the participants.

The program will begin in early July through mid August. It will include four weeks of language training, one week for sightseeing and one week for free activities. Each participant has to pay U.S. \$125 for tuition fee with board, lodging, books and local transportation free during the period of the program.

Air passage from U.S. to Taipei and back must be defrayed by the participants themselves, but the China Airlines will charge the lowest

possible rate for return tickets from San Francisco/Los Angeles - Taipei through arrangement made by the Embassy of the Republic of China in Washington, D.C.

Deadline for application is March 15, 1977. Those who are interested may obtain information and application forms from the Office of the Consulate General of the Republic of China, 545 Boylston Street, Suite 800, Boston, Ma. 02116 or telephone (617) 262-0600.

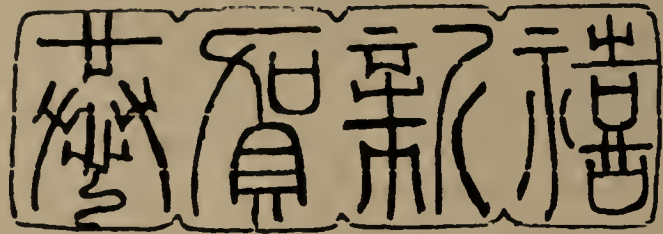
Furnished rooms with all utilities. Rents from \$45 per month to \$95 per month. Tremont and Washington Street area. James Chin, 969-6360.

Interesting part time job working with the Chinese Community. Bilingual person preferred. Call Jamiese Martin for further information. Girls Scouts 523-8255.

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Ideal Location for Chinese Restaurant Land, Restaurant, Motel Route 1, Foxboro, MA Call: Key Real Estate 543-6301

Happy Chinese New Year



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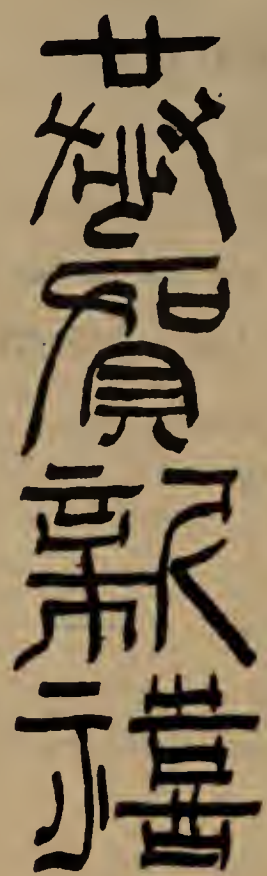
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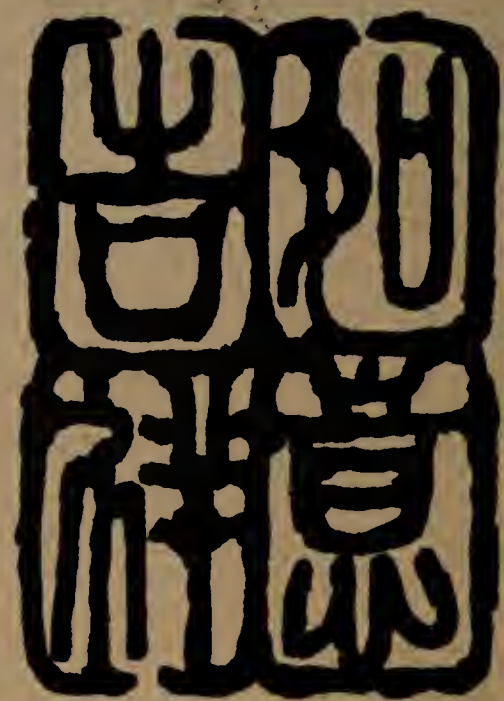
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Money Man discusses new 1977 auto insurance

The staff of The Sampan made this month's Money Man article easy to choose. It seems everyone is confused about auto insurance for 1977. This, mind you, inspite of the brochure sent out by the Commissioner of Insurance. (I hadn't read the brochure either and didn't know much about the new changes except the merit system and the penalties.)

Let's walk through the brochure together. We'll try to pick out the essential parts and try to simplify the subject.

1. Merit Rating. Every accident you cause will raise your insurance rates (one-time charge) as follows:

1st accident--\$50.00

2nd accident--\$150.00 (\$100 1st yr., \$50 next)

3rd accident--\$300.00 (\$150 1st yr., \$100 2nd yr., \$50 3rd yr.)

Moving violations will also result in surcharges. Moving violations are instances where you may go through a red light, speeding, etc.

A third offense for drunken driving will result in a surcharge of \$675--as well as suspension of your driver's license. A complete schedule of surcharges is available without charge at the office of the Insurance Commissioner.

2. New Claims Law. From now on, claim amounts for repaired damages will be based on actual costs. After the damage is appraised, you will be paid within seven days *after you submit proof of repair and the bill*. Payment will be based on the amount of the bill. If you choose not to have your car repaired, you will receive a payment based on the decrease in resale value of the car due to the unrepaired damage.

Theft claims will now be paid on the basis of the actual value of the car unless a higher agreed value has been worked out in advance with the insurance company.

3. Right to Sue. Under the new law, you will be able to sue other drivers for *uninsured property damage, including amounts below your deductible. Claims for bodily injury will continue to be settled under No-Fault law.*

Buy Only What You Need

The first rule of careful insurance buying is never to buy what you do not need. Do not over-insure and make deductibles as high as comfortable for yourself. It will save enormous amounts of

money for you.

The following is a summary of the 12 standard coverages with new and old (parenthesis) names:

1. Bodily Injury to Others (Compulsory) (Coverage A, Div. 2): known as No-Fault Coverage. Coverage. It pays medical expenses and 75% of lost wages for anyone injured in or by your car, up to \$2,000 per person. If you and members of your household are covered for injuries by other means, such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield or other insurance plans, there is no reason to have double coverage. Consider a deductible to cut your premium if you have this

other protection.

3. Bodily Injury Caused By an Uninsured Auto (Compulsory) (Coverage U, Sec. 1): It protects persons within your car against injury caused by an uninsured vehicle. Minimums of \$5,000 per person and \$10,000 per accident are required. (Higher amounts may be required if you travel out of state.)

4. Damage to Someone Else's Property (Compulsory) (Coverage C, Div. 1): This section covers the damage your car may cause to other's property. It does not cover your own car and pays only when your car is found at fault.

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5. Optional Bodily Injury to Others (Coverage B): It extends the minimum liability limits in Part 1 where traveling beyond Massachusetts.

6. Medical Payments (Optional) (Coverage D): It extends the protection for medical expenses of Part 2.

7. Bodily Injury Caused by An Underinsured Auto (Optional) (Coverage U, Div. 2): This coverage extends protection for guests in your car caused by a driver without the sources or adequate insurance to pay for the damages.

8. & 9. Collision and Limited Collision Coverage: This is for the coverage of your own car. There are three approaches:

a. Collision Coverage (Option 1) - pays for damage to your car no matter who was at fault.

b. Limited Collision Coverage (Option 2) - covers the damage *only* if another auto was at fault and owner can be identified.

c. Neither of above - you choose as your right to sue to protect against having to pay for damages someone else causes.

Consider the cost of each of the above. For drivers with good driving records or older cars, Collision Coverage is statistically unlikely to be worth the cost.

Buy this coverage only with sizeable deductibles.

Buying Limited Collision Coverage makes good sense for drivers with better than average records. If the value of your car is low enough that you can afford to absorb the cost of any damage you cause to your car, this is the coverage for you. Take a deductible here also.

For the Old Option 3 where you choose to sue, you are simply on your own and can cause you a lot of grief if you are in an accident.

10. Comprehensive Coverage (Optional) (Coverage E). This covers losses through theft, fire or vandalism or other losses not caused by a collision.

11. Substitute Transportation (Optional): This is for car rental while yours is being repaired or replaced.

12. Towing and Labor (Optional): It pays for towing and for labor needed to get your auto started at the scene of an accident.

Personally, I think Parts 11 and 12 are misuses of insurance.

Insurance is offered on a competitive basis this year. You are advised to shop around for the best rates, although the best rates may not be the "best buy."

福

Edward Brown

會計師 白冷
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Elderly get some exemption from rent hikes

To qualify for an elderly tenant rent increase exemption, a tenant:

1. must live in a rent controlled apartment;
2. must be 65 years of age or older and head of household; and
3. meet total yearly income requirements of \$7,200 or less for an elderly single person,

\$8,750 or less for an elderly couple, and \$8,750 or less plus \$300 for each additional tenant if more than two persons.

Applications received before February 1, 1977, and later approved, will be effective retroactively. Applications for this exemption received on or after February 1, 1977 will not be

retroactive.

If you think you qualify for this exemption, applications can be picked up at the Chinatown Little City Hall, or at the Boston Rent Control Administration, 18 Tremont Street.

For further information on this special exemption, call your Little City Hall, 542-5931 or the Older Bostonian Hotline, 722-4646.

To offset the impact of rising rents on Older Bostonians, the City of Boston's Rent Board will give elderly tenants a 50% exemption from any rent increase approved by the Board.



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Written part of driver's test now available in Chinese

The Chinatown Little City Hall is pleased to announce that after working cooperatively with the Registry of Motor Vehicles for three years the Chinese Community in this Commonwealth will be able to take the written portion of the driving license examination in Chinese effective December 16, 1976.

For some years the Chinese in the Commonwealth have been seeking to obtain such an opportunity. In 1973 a petition drive was organized and since 1974 the efforts have been coordinated by the Chinatown Little City Hall.

The decision to offer the examination in Chinese will benefit more than 18,000 Chinese in the Commonwealth, 15,000 of them from the City of Boston.

The examination will be printed in both English and Chinese in multiple choice forms (each has 10 questions) so as to enable Registry inspectors to correct the tests.

Chapter 90 Section 8 of the Massachusetts General Law states that: "Any applicant shall be permitted, at his request, to take any written examination in connection with the issuance of such license in a language other than English." The Examination is now offered in addition to English and Chinese, Italian, Spanish, Polish, French, Greek, Finnish, and Portuguese.

The Chinatown Little City Hall would like to thank the following persons for their efforts and assistance on behalf of the Chinese Community: Governor Michael Dukakis, Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Robert A. Panora, Mayor Kevin H. White, Senator William M. Bulger, State Representative Barney Frank, Roland Orlandi, John Businger, Jon Rotenberg, Doris Bunte, James Segel, and Mel King.

The manual is also available in Chinese at the Chinatown Little City Hall, as translated by Peter Chan.

EPA

Civil and Sanitary Engineers

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency urges all Civil and Sanitary Engineers, as well as June graduates to submit application forms with the U.S. Civil Service Commission.

Applications will be accepted in February and March 1977 only, and will provide eligibility for all civil and sanitary engineering positions that become available during the year.

For more information contact: Marian Hwang, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, J.F.K. Federal Building, Boston, MA 02203 or call (617) 223-4631 or 223-5769.

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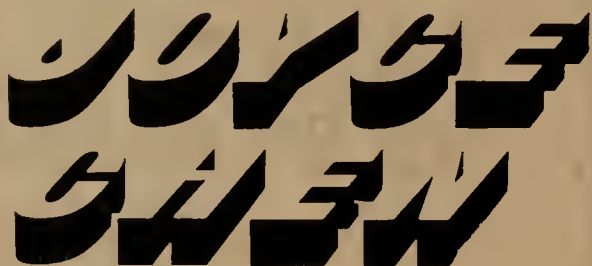
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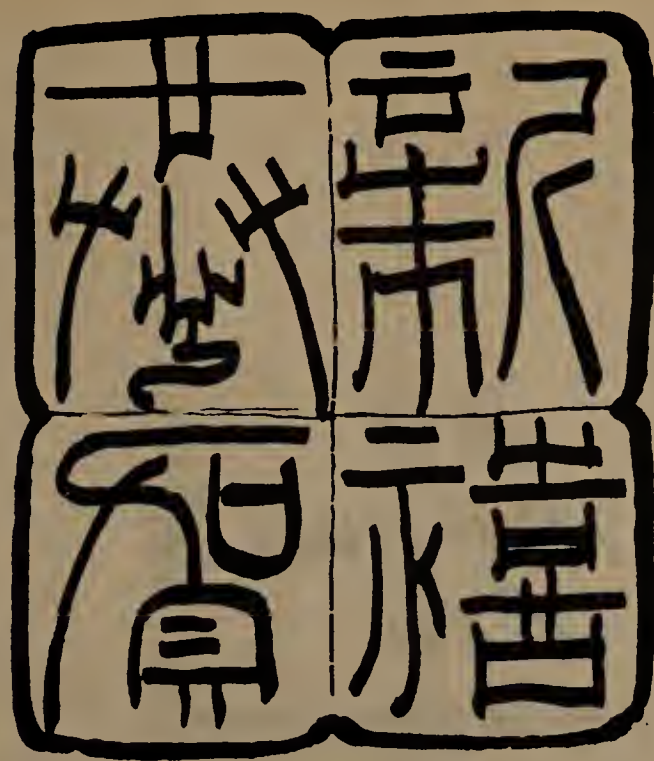


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New York Chinatown: Impressions

By Alan LaRue

New York's Chinatown sits squat on the lower east side, close to the river. Even on this wet, grimy day, or perhaps because of it, the air is awake with a busy energy demanding a visitor's attention. This small piece of the world is a whole world of its own.

The calligraphy marking banks, shops, and restaurants in reds, golds, and greens, and the storefront windows packed with ornaments and trinkets seem to echo the activity of the streets. The streets are short and narrow, and sometimes winding. In some, the produce trucks ride the sidewalks in order to pass another unloading. The air is seasoned with fried wonton and ginger.

Over 75,000 people live here tightly in an area of roughly ten city blocks. Most are immigrants of Taiwan and Hong Kong adjusting to an alien American way of life. Ten or fifteen years ago, the community was solidly working class. Today, there is a substantial proportion—about 35%—of successful merchants and business people. Chinatown is still a "ghetto" by many, but if so, it is one with financial backing.

Housing is poor. The buildings are old and worn down, often infested with roaches and rats. Space is cramped and can be expensive. Little housing exists for the elderly. Confucius Plaza will hopefully alleviate some of the housing problems. It is a massive, \$40 million dollar, high-rise, cooperative complex with space to house 700 medium-low income families. Unfortunately, funds for the project have dried-up, halting completion and preventing occupancy.

Health care hindered by financial crisis

Health conditions are extremely bad and services fearfully inadequate. Some medical care is provided by local health centers, but most services are offered only by expensive, private physicians, or on a back-up basis by nearby Beth Israel and Floating Hospitals.

The Chinatown Community Health Center on Canal Street is one of the area clinics. It used to offer full free pediatric and gynecological-family planning services for 4000 registered low income and Medicare patients. Sponsored by the Human Resources Administration, it is entirely dependent on the city's Department of Social Services funding. Neither the federal government nor private sources support the center in any way, although another clinic does receive such assistance. As a result of the city's financial crisis, the center had to close down for seven weeks in April-May of last year, until re-apportionment found new funds. But all pediatric and nutrition guidance services were suspended, and staff, patients, and practicing hours had to be reduced.

Although in this case, the Chinese health center was affected along with other services citywide, the community strongly feels it is

generally discriminated against, according to Victor Lui, secretary of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA). Despite Chinatown's contribution to the city's well being, he claims that funding for Chinatown projects is always cut first by the city council when it decides something must go.

Chinatown has been growing at a prodigious rate during the past two years, and the prospects for the future are encouraging.

A 1971-72 stock surge in Hong Kong produced new monies for foreign investment. As a British colony, it is much easier for Hong Kong investors to settle in Toronto or Vancouver, Canada, than in the United States. But increasing capital is working its way to New York from the Republic of China, Singapore, and Hong Kong, so much so that a branch of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has opened on the Bowery. This is in addition to the twelve other banks in the community, and a new Golden Pacific Bank will open soon. The irony is that no return is forthcoming from the city council.

Chinatown is generating increased revenues for the city from a booming merchant, restaurant, and tourist trade. The sewing industry is well-established here, and other manufacturing is opening up. All of this means a gradual upgrading of the community and expansion. Around this last consequence rages a major conflict.

conflicts with Little Italy and urban renewal

Just across Canal Street, one of the corridors around Chinatown, lies Little Italy. Chinatown has been overflowing into this community, with not undue resistance. Victor Lui suggests that as merchants, businesses, and the people at large in Little Italy attain financial stability, they leave the area, creating the opportunity for the Chinese—who do not leave—to move in and fill the void. Lui asserts that the Chinese are not, therefore, actively pushing out the Italians, as has been charged, but merely turning open space into productive commercial enterprises, occupying needed housing, and preventing urban blight from settling in.

However, the city council—which is controlled by the Italians and has no Chinese representation—sees things differently. They are interested in rebuilding Little Italy, and have little apparent desire to assist Chinatown. The city planning board proposed, without consulting the Chinese, to takeover 2/3 of Chinatown for reconstruction of Little Italy. That proposal was enough to arouse powerful opposition from the Chinese community, and was defeated. A revised proposal for developing some territory wanted by Chinatown for expansion, is awaiting action in face of continued Chinese opposition.



Role of the CCBA

The Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association claims much of the credit for checking the Little Italy proposals, and this seems likely their due. CCBA philosophy focuses on commercial interests, and support of Chinatown physical and financial expansion would be in its own best interest. The association is comprised of sixty members, each being an organization of several merchants.

The CCBA is well-established by history, and recognized by government and business for its leadership role. It has grand expectations for the development of Chinatown businesses within the next decade from small family-run operations to larger stockholding corporations. Central to its philosophy, according to Lui, is the belief that to have a say in this country, to have power, it is essential to have the financial strength of large corporations.

The Benevolent Association, however, is not known for its interest in social concerns. It lends direct support only to clerical job training and nursing home programs. For this reason, it has been struggling for the past two years to maintain its leadership role against the challenges of other community organizations.

Victor Lui outlined the process in which the CCBA usually operates. The organization typically works behind the scenes, arguing for projects and raising funds, establishing operational groups to implement the programs, and then quietly retiring, leaving the fate of the project in the hands

of the new administrative group. Service functions are left up to the organizations such as the Chinese Manpower Project, a federally-funded program—which incidentally holds a favorable attitude, of the CCBA—offering paralegal, typing and translation services.

CCBA and other political factions

The association helped raise funding for the Confucius Plaza housing project mentioned earlier, but then withdrew its active role from the scene. In 1974, an organization called Asian-Americans for Equal Employment (AAFEE), charged that the project contractor had no Chinese workers on its payroll and sponsored rallies protesting this discrimination. The builder's response was to hire about twenty-five Chinese—a token action, but nevertheless a gain against the formidable odds of union-controlled labor.

Throughout all of this, the CCBA offered little, if any, support to the workers' interests. It has viewed the AAFEE efforts as communistic—although this is disputed—and considers their definition of labor as too narrow-minded. AAFEE considers labor, says Lui, to include only manual workers.

AAFEE began to attack the CCBA for its neglect of the working people, who account for 65% of the community. It has continued its efforts charging that the CCBA maintains a mistaken emphasis in its pursuit of conservative, business establishment policies, while ignoring the needs of the people-at-large.

Unfortunately, despite my efforts, I was not able to contact the AAFEE for their views and hope they will respond in a future issue.

The Chinese Planning Council was once sponsored by the CCBA and is now contending for a leadership role in the community. Its emphasis is on social service functions. The CCBA would like to work together with the CPC, uniting the symbolic spiritual role claimed by the parent organization with the social services of its offspring.

From a detached point of view, this rivalry for leadership appears to be a good thing. It hopefully will insure in time that the voices of all the constituents of the community will be heard, and that power will settle among everyone and not be the force of a single party.

Need for unity and cooperation

There are some instances, however, where immediate unity is necessary, as in dealing with street gangs and crime. Gambling, extortion of merchants, violent assaults, and robbery—all by teenage gangs—are increasing markedly. The CCBA believes there are several factors contributing to the increase of youth crime: first, U.S. laws protect the criminal too much; second, minority groups receive insufficient funds for adolescent programs, and third, parents too often neglect their children in pursuit of business concerns.

Appeals by the police and press for cooperation from the community have often met with little more than worry and grieving. One obstacle has been a distrust of the police by the community. An effective, yet sympathetic police captain has been hard to come by. It is hoped that a newly appointed district captain—assigned after his predecessor was removed following protests by the community for discriminatory remarks—will satisfy the role. If so, a new street watchers organization might have a chance for success. The organization will keep an eye out for criminal activity, report all incidents, and follow-up with court testimony against suspects. Since its beginning in mid-December, the crime-rate appears to have diminished.

New York's Chinatown has its attractions and its share of big city pains and problems, but also has the enduring determination to succeed as the community it wants to be.

(Author's Note: I wish to extend my appreciation to Henry Fung, Public Relations Director of Seng Tao Jih Pao, for the extensive background information he generously provided for this article; to the staff of the Chinese Community Health Center for their insights into the health situation of Chinatown; to Victor Lui of the CCBA for his discussion of Chinatown and his organization, and to the several people I spoke to with momentarily in the streets for their assistance and directions.)

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Tax Time ahead—short form not so short anymore

Those of you who received your income tax forms in the mail will notice that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has made quite a few changes. In a word, the Short Form is not so short anymore.

It has come to my attention that the IRS has received many queries concerning the new forms and I'm sure many of you will also have questions. If you need assistance, you are advised calling the IRS at the Kennedy

Bldg. (tel. 523-1040).

For those of you who need bilingual assistance, CACA Multi-Service may have the service of Ted Wong from the IRS on the premises. Call 426-8673 or 423-1926 for the days and time of his visits.

If you employ a "tax preparer," you should know your rights and the obligation of the preparer. Under the Tax Reform Act of 1976, an income tax return "preparer" is defined as any person who prepares or employs another to prepare all or a substantial portion of an income tax return or refund claim in return for compensation

(whether in the form of money, services, or property).

The "preparer" must comply to the standards and procedures as outlined or the preparer will face fines ranging from \$25 to \$25,000. The "preparer" must follow these rules:

1. A complete copy of any return *must* be furnished to the taxpayer no later than when the return is presented to him for signature.

2. A preparer must retain a copy (on file) or maintain a listing of all taxpayers and their identification numbers for whom returns were prepared. The copies and/or list must be

available for IRS inspection and kept for three years from the close of the return period.

3. Every return prepared must have the preparer's signature and identification number.

4. The preparer *cannot* endorse or otherwise negotiate any income tax check issued to a taxpayer.

Choose your preparer carefully. If you pay someone to prepare your return, that person is bound by law to meet steps 1-4. Remember, however, that *you* are still responsible for the accuracy of every item entered on your return.



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Holy Trinity's Christmas '76 recalled in photos

By YVONNE WONG

The Chinese members of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church enjoyed the annual Christmas program held Christmas day. Preparations during the liturgical celebration--four weeks of Advent--brought together interested and talented youngsters and oldsters.

People from throughout the Greater Boston area gathered for the special religious event. Members of the church, led by guitarist-singer Mee Chan, caroled in the Boston Chinese community and nearby towns the three days before Christmas.

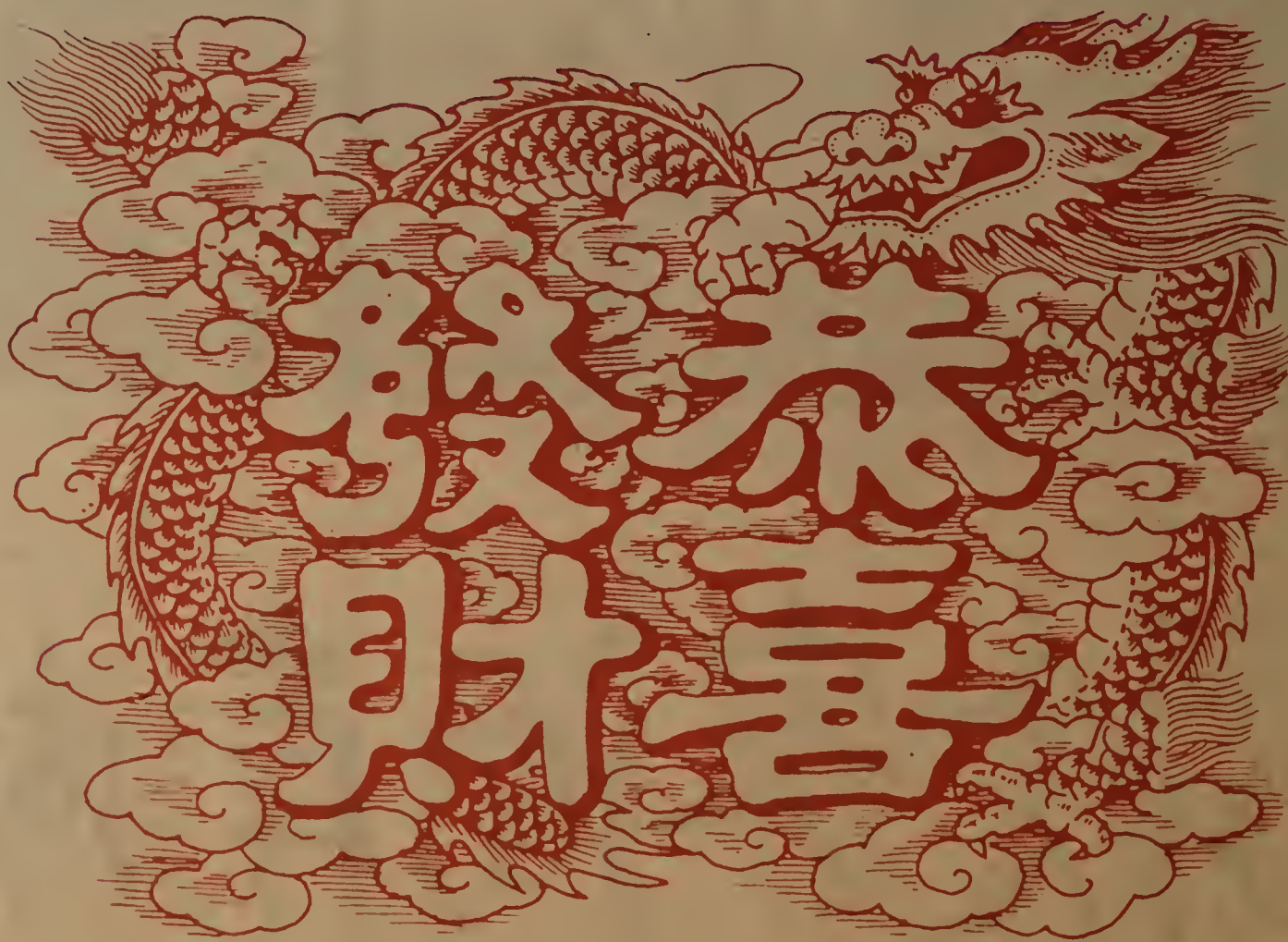
Midnight Mass was held in the upper Church with the regular members of the German congregation and on Christmas day Mass was presided by Father Szeliga and passages were read by former teacher and world traveler David Lum and MIT doctoral student Dick Yu. Baptismal was given to Mark Chan.

The Christmas program was made merrier with dancing, singing and other performances by performers from Vietnam, Hong Kong, the Philippines and the U.S.

People like Irene Lam, who sang a Chinese folk song, Teresa Man, for a Chinese classical, John Wong, as Santa, Father Burckhart, Father Szeliga and other dedicated staff members made the Christmas program a success.

The night concluded with a dinner at China Pearl.

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